

passing at least a portion of the magnetic tape through a work area; and

forming the servo tracks and non-servo tracks on a surface of the non-recording side of the portion of the magnetic tape as the tape passes through the work area, the servo tracks being grouped in bands, each comprised of plural servo tracks, each of the bands being delimited by at least one non-servo track at upper and lower portions thereof, each of the bands corresponding to a data track on the magnetic recording side, the bands being separated from one another by a first distance and servo tracks in the bands being separated from one another by a second distance, the first distance being greater than the second distance.--

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